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By:

DANIEL P. BURKE

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PATENT 1240-25

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT

Francesco Orlandi et al.

SERIAL NO.

10/679,258

FILING DATE

October 7, 2003

FOR

MULTI-MARKER SCREENING PROTOCOL FOR

FETAL ABNORMALITIES

GROUP NO.

1631

EXAMINER

Marjorie A. Moran

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

RESPONSE UNDER RULE 116

Sir:

In response to the Office Action dated September 21, 2006, Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of all pending claims in light of the following remarks.